GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1669
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
SEPARATE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Weather water conservation activist have sought establishment of a seprate environment protection authority with powers to monitor and implement water pollution laws in the country as reported in the Hindu dated 30 July, 2008;

(b) If so, the details thereof along with the actions taken by the government thereon; and

(c) The time by which final decision is likely to be taken by the Union Government in the regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (c) The suggestion for establishment of a separate authority to monitor and implement pollution laws as reported in the Hindu dated 30.7.2008 has come to notice of the Government.Under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) have already been constituted to implement provisions Act. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) at the apex level has been constituted under the Water Act to coordinate the activities of the SPCBs/PCCs and to provide technical advice and guidance to them.With regard to the water pollution abatement in the rivers,the Central Government is at present revamping the rivers cleaning programme with the aim to promote a hosistic and integrated approach.